## Grammar VIDEO

### Past continuous

Si usa il **Past continuous** per descrivere:

- azioni in corso di svolgimento in un determinato periodo del passato.
  - What **were** you **doing** yesterday during break?
    - I **was checking** my messages.
- una scena nel passato.
  It was a beautiful day. The sun **was shining** and the sky was blue.

**1** Il **Past continuous** si forma con il passato del verbo **be** seguito dalla forma in **-ing** del verbo principale.

**Positive**
subject + was/were + verb + -ing
The sun **was shining** when we went out.

**Negative**
subject + wasn't/weren't + verb + -ing
We **weren't talking**, Mr Kane! We promise!

**Questions and short answers**
Was/Were + subject + verb + -ing + ?
**Were** they **dancing?** – **Yes**, they **were**.

1) Come puoi vedere osservando la mappa qui sotto: il Past Continuous è un tempo composto:

- è formato dal passato del verbo essere: I was - You were - He/she/it was - We/you/they were
  +
  il verbo (che esprime l'azione) in -ING

IT WAS RAINING ALL DAY YESTERDAY

2) COMPLETA LA MAPPA:

**FORM**

**Past continuous**

**POSITIVE**
subject + **was / were** + base form of verb + **-ing**
I [7] ..... (drive) home when the accident happened.

**NEGATIVE**
subject + **wasn't / weren't (was / were not)**
+ base form of verb + **-ing**
They [8] ..... (listen) to the teacher.

**QUESTIONS**
**Was / Were** + subject + base form of verb + **-ing** + **?**
[9] ..... you [10] ..... (have) breakfast at 7.30?

**SHORT ANSWERS**
**Yes,** + subject + **was / were . / No ,** + subject + **wasn't / weren't (was not/were not).**
Yes, I [11] ..... . / No, I [12] ..... .

LIVEWORKSHEETS

3) ESERCITATI SULLA FORMAZIONE DEL PAST CONTINUOUS

Scrivi le frasi o le domande usando la forma corretta del Past continuous per le parole in blu:

1. I saw you yesterday afternoon. You/ride/your bike along High Street.

   .....

2. The teacher shouted at us because we/not/listen.

   .....

3. So, you saw a man in the street. What/he/wear?

   ..... ?

4. Sorry, I/run to catch the bus, so I didn't see you.

   .....

5. I heard a noise. Someone/come/up the stairs.

   .....

6. We didn't go out because it/snow/heavily.

   .....

7. Sorry, did I wake you? – No, I/not/sleep.

   .....

8. What/those people/do in the street at 10 o'clock last night?

   .....

4) Il Past continuous può essere usato in un discorso del passato per descrivere una scena nel passato, azioni che hanno avuto una certa durata nel passato, che erano in corso di svolgimento.

Il past simple, che come ricorderai si forma aggiungendo -ED al verbo base:
WALKED - STARTED - oppure ha una forma irregolare : WENT - RAN - LEFT etc. Descrive invece azioni concluse e compiute: lo usiamo anche per descrivere azioni in sequenza, tutte concluse.
É possibile mettere in relazione due azioni nel passato usando sia il past continuous che il past simple, come in questo caso:

"I was watching a movie, when the phone rang"

"I WAS WATCHING A MOVIE" = AZIONE DURATURA, Più LUNGA, CHE ERA IN CORSO DI SVOLGIMENTO QUANDO, A UN CERTO PUNTO è SQUILLATO IL TELEFONO.

"THE PHONE RANG" = AZIONE BREVE, CHE HA INTERROTTO, è ACCADUTA NEL BEL MEZZO DELL'AZIONE Più LUNGA

LIVEWORKSHEETS

## E Past continuous and Past simple: *when, while, as*

**1** Spesso il **Past continuous** e il **Past simple** compaiono insieme nello stesso periodo quando si vuole descrivere un'azione in corso che viene interrotta da un'azione più breve e conclusa. Queste azioni sono collegate dalle congiunzioni **while**, **when** e **as**.

We **were having** lunch in the canteen **when** we **heard** the fire alarm. *Stavamo pranzando in mensa quando abbiamo sentito l'allarme antincendio.*

**2** Si usano **while/as/when** + **Past continuous** per descrivere l'azione in corso.

**While/As/When I was waiting** for the bus, I saw Lily. *Mentre aspettavo l'autobus, ho visto Lily.*

**3** Si usa **when** + **Past simple** per descrivere l'azione più breve che 'interrompe' l'azione in corso.

**When I saw** Lily, I was waiting for the bus. *Quando ho visto Lily, stavo aspettando l'autobus.*

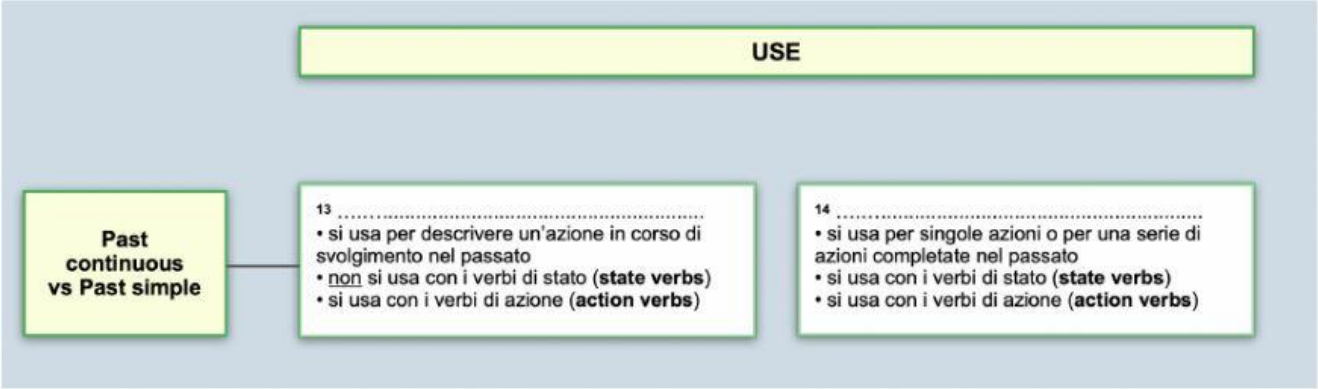
**4** L'ordine delle frasi può cambiare. Nota l'uso della virgola quando la frase inizia con **while/as/when**.

**While I** was waiting for the bus, I saw Lily.
I saw Lily **while** I was waiting for the bus.
*Mentre aspettavo l'autobus, ho visto Lily.*

**5** **When** + **Past continuous** esprime la contemporaneità di un'azione rispetto a un'altra, mentre **when** + **Past simple** descrive due azioni che accadono in successione.

**When** the boss **arrived**, everyone **was working**.
*Quando è arrivato il capo, tutti stavano lavorando.*
**When** the boss **arrived**, everyone **started** working.
*Quando è arrivato il capo, tutti hanno iniziato a lavorare.*

Se ti è chiaro quanto spiegato finora, prova ad inserire negli spazi 13 e 14 il tempo verbale:




PAST SIMPLE - PAST CONTINUOUS

5) Nello schema sopra, si parla di verbi di stato e verbi di azione… La prossima volta vedremo la differenza tra i due.
Ora esercitati quanto puoi sul past continuous.

PAGE 35, EXERCISE 9

Complete the sentences with the Past Continuous of the verbs in brackets.

**0.** Julie **was running** (run) round the park when it started to rain.

**1.** Hannah's sister ..... (not work) on her Music project. She was out with friends.

**2.** No, I ..... (not text) my friends, Mum. I ..... (study)!

**3.** They ..... (play) chess when Oliver's mum called.

**4.** ..... you and Jacob ..... (ride) your bikes when the accident happened?

LIVEWORKSHEETS

PAGE 35, EXERCISE 10

Write sentences to describe what Alex was doing at these times yesterday morning.

**0.** 7.20 am – had a shower

**Alex was having a shower at 7.20 am**.

**1.** 7.30 am – got dressed

.....

**2.** 7.35 am – made his bed

.....

**3.** 7.40 am – had breakfast

.....

**4.** 7.50 am – brushed his teeth

.....

**5.** 7.55 am – left the house

.....

**6.** 8.00 am – waited for the bus

.....

LIVEWORKSHEETS

PAGE 35, EXERCISE 11

Now look at what Alex did for the rest of the day and answer the questions.

0 2.30 pm - 4.30 pm

1 4.30 pm – 4.45 pm

2 4.45 pm – 6.45 pm

3 6.45 pm – 7.00 pm

4 7.00 pm – 7.45 pm

5 7.45 pm - 9.45 pm

**0.** Was Alex watching TV at 2.45 pm?

**No, he wasn't. He was studying** .

**1.** Was he listening to music at 4.40 pm?

..... .

**2.** Was he doing yoga at 6 pm?

..... .

**3.** Was he having a shower at 6.50 pm?

..... .

**4.** Was he having lunch at 7.30 pm?

..... .

**5.** Was he playing video games at 8.00 pm?

..... .

LIVEWORKSHEETS